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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

ZHOU, TING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 12/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/934,401

Applicant(s)

ROYALTY, CHARLES D.

Examiner

Ting Zhou

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 3 August 2004 have been received and entered. Claim 2 has been cancelled by the applicant and claims 1 and 3-21 as amended are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3-8 and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McElreath U.S. Patent 6,401,013 and Doll et al. European Patent 429,387.

Referring to claims 1, 17 and 18, McElreath teaches a method comprising providing an aircraft having a certified flight deck display (McElreath: column 2, lines 25-27 and column 3, lines 28-31), providing an avionics display having a display area that is capable of displaying information from a non-certified source (McElreath: column 3, lines 28-32 and 57-65), providing a data connection between the avionics display and the non-certified source (McElreath: column 1, lines 51-52), providing information from the non-certified source to the avionics display (McElreath: column 3, lines 57-65) and limiting space on the certified flight deck display in which information can be displayed so that less than the entire display area displays the information (arranging the avionics display by splitting the screens and separately displaying the information from the certified and non-certified sources so that only a portion of the display area

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displays information from the non-certified source) (McElreath: column 4, lines 9-21 and Figure 1). However, McElreath fails to explicitly teach partitioning the display area so that at least a portion of the display area cannot display the information from the non-certified source. Doll et al. teach a display system partitioned to display information from a secure and non-secure source separately (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55 and column 2, lines 1-3 and further recited in the Abstract) similar to that of McElreath. In addition, Doll et al. further teach partitioning the display area so that at least a portion of the display area cannot display the information from the non-certified source (the display is divided into two display areas, an inner area and an outer area; the inner area can display information without restriction but only secure information can be displayed outside the inner area; in other words, the outer area cannot display non-secure information) (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55, column 2, lines 1-3, column 8, lines 16-22 and further recited in the Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the partitioning of the avionics display system of McElreath to include the partitioning of the display area so that a portion of the screen cannot display information from a non-certified source, as taught by Doll et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination as a security measure to prevent a casual user from modifying or interfering with secure information; furthermore, this combination ensures that the use of non-certified sources of information will not corrupt any FAA certified avionics equipment which is onboard the aircraft, such as the aircraft taught by McElreath.

Referring to claims 3, 4 and 19, McElreath fails to explicitly teach providing the non-certified source with a false indication of the size of the display area or a false display address so

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that the non-certified source is not capable of addressing the entire display area. Doll et al. teach a display system partitioned to display information from a secure and non-secure source separately (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55 and column 2, lines 1-3 and further recited in the Abstract) similar to that of McElreath. In addition, Doll et al. further teach providing the non-certified source with a false indication of the size of the display area or a false display address so that the non-certified source is not capable of addressing the entire display area (limiting the display of information from the non-secure sources to only a portion of the display area, namely, outside the inner area reserved for information from secure sources; in other words, the size of the display area which non-secure information can be displayed is not the actual size of the entire display area) (Doll et al.: column 1, line 53 – column 2, line 3, column 8, lines 16-22 and further recited in the Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the partitioning of the avionics display system of McElreath to include limiting the non-secure source from addressing the whole display area, as taught by Doll et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination as a security measure to prevent a casual user from modifying or interfering with secure information; furthermore, this combination ensures that the use of non-certified sources of information will not corrupt any FAA certified avionics equipment which is onboard the aircraft, such as the aircraft taught by McElreath.

Referring to claims 5 and 6, McElreath fails to explicitly teach providing a false horizontal and vertical display size so that the non-certified source is not capable of addressing the entire display area. Doll et al. teach a display system partitioned to display information from a secure and non-secure source separately (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55 and column 2, lines

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1-3 and further recited in the Abstract) similar to that of McElreath. In addition, Doll et al. further teach providing a false horizontal and vertical display size so that the non-certified source is not capable of addressing the entire display area (limiting the horizontal or vertical display of information from the non-secure sources to only a portion of the display area, namely, the horizontal and vertical areas outside the inner area reserved for information from secure sources) (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55, column 2, lines 1-3, column 8, lines 16-22 and further recited in the Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the partitioning of the avionics display system of McElreath to include limiting the non-secure source from addressing the whole display area, as taught by Doll et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination as a security measure to prevent a casual user from modifying or interfering with secure information; furthermore, this combination ensures that the use of non-certified sources of information will not corrupt any FAA certified avionics equipment which is onboard the aircraft, such as the aircraft taught by McElreath.

Referring to claim 7, McElreath teaches a visual display monitor and computer processor that limits the display area in which the information can be displayed (arranging the avionics display by splitting the screens and separately displaying the information from the certified and non-certified sources so that only a portion of the display area displays information from the non-certified source) (column 4, lines 9-21).

Referring to claims 8 and 20, McElreath specifically teach displaying a certified display on the display area and maintaining the displaying of the certified display on the display area while simultaneously displaying the information from the non-certified source and arranging the

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display area so that the non-certified information is visible on the avionics display and at least a portion of the certified display is visible on the avionics display (arranging the avionics display by splitting the screens and separately displaying the information from the certified and non-certified sources so that only a portion of the display area displays the non-certified source) (McElreath: column 4, lines 9-21). However, McElreath fails to explicitly teach displaying non-certified information on the display area in front of the certified display. Doll et al. teach a display system partitioned to display information from a secure and non-secure source separately (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55 and column 2, lines 1-3 and further recited in the Abstract) similar to that of McElreath. In addition, Doll et al. further teach displaying the non-secure information in front of the certified information so that the non-secure information is visible on the display and at least a portion of the secure information is visible on the display (the display is divided into two display areas, an inner area and a outer area; the inner area, which can display information without restriction is displayed on top of the remaining outer area) (Doll et al.: column 1, line 51 – column 2, line 3, column 8, lines 16-22 and further recited in the Abstract and shown in Figure 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the partitioning of the avionics computer display system of McElreath to include display of information from the non-certified source in front of the certified source, as taught by Doll et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination as a security measure to prevent a casual user from modifying or interfering with secure information; furthermore, this combination ensures that the use of non-certified sources of information will not corrupt any FAA certified avionics equipment which is onboard the aircraft, such as the aircraft taught by McElreath.

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Referring to claim 12, McElreath teach a method comprising providing an avionics display that is capable of displaying information from a non-certified source (McElreath: column 3, lines 28-32 and 57-65) and establishing rules that dictate when the avionics display can display the information (a menu for controlling the display of information) (McElreath: column 4, lines 9-21). This is further shown in Figure 1. However, McElreath fails to explicitly teach preventing the display of information when the rules dictate that the avionics display should not display the information so that application spoofing cannot occur. Doll et al. teach a display system partitioned to display information from a secure and non-secure source separately and establishing rules that dictate when the display can display information from the non-secure source (only when information receive a special authorization indication, can it be displayed in the secure outer display area) (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55 and column 2, lines 1-3 and further recited in the Abstract) similar to that of McElreath. In addition, Doll et al. further teach preventing the display of the information when the rules dictate that the avionics display should not display the information so that application spoofing cannot occur (if information does not receive the special authorization indication, then it is prevented from being displayed in the main outer display area) (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 10-12 and 51-55, column 2, lines 1-3, column 8, lines 16-22 and further recited in the Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the avionics display system of McElreath to include prevention of the display of non-secure information when the rules dictate that the information cannot be displayed, as taught by Doll et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination as a security measure to prevent a casual user from modifying or interfering with secure

information; furthermore, this combination ensures that the use of non-certified sources of information will not corrupt any FAA certified avionics equipment which is onboard the aircraft, such as the aircraft taught by McElreath.

Referring to claim 13, McElreath teaches reviewing applicable government regulations that govern the operation of an aircraft (FAA certified information) and determining when the regulations require the avionics display to display a certified display (a menu for controlling the integrated display can be used to display a certified display according to factors such as government, or FAA regulations) (column 4, lines 1-31).

Referring to claim 14, McElreath teaches identifying periods of operation of an aircraft when an operator of the aircraft should not be allowed to access the information (such as during take-offs and landings) (column 1, lines 35-40).

Referring to claim 15, McElreath teaches an avionics computer processor display capable of displaying information from certified and non-certified sources on the avionics display. However, McElreath fails to explicitly teach preventing the displaying of the information from the non-certified source (McElreath: column 2, lines 25-27, column 3, lines 28-32 and 57-65 and column 4, lines 9-21; this is further shown in Figure 1). Doll et al. teach a display system partitioned to display information from a secure and non-secure source separately and establishing rules that dictate when the display can display information from the non-secure source (only when information receive a special authorization indication, can it be displayed in the secure outer display area) (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 51-55 and column 2, lines 1-3 and further recited in the Abstract) similar to that of McElreath. In addition, Doll et al. further teach preventing the display of the information when the rules dictate that the avionics display should

not display the information so that application spoofing cannot occur (if information does not receive the special authorization indication, then it is prevented from being displayed in the main outer display area) (Doll et al.: column 1, lines 10-12 and 51-55, column 2, lines 1-3, column 8, lines 16-22 and further recited in the Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the avionics computer display system of McElreath to include prevention of the display of non-secure information when the rules dictate the information cannot be displayed, as taught by Doll et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination as a security measure to ensure that the use of non-certified sources of information will not corrupt any avionics equipment which is onboard the aircraft and certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Referring to claim 16, McElreath teaches terminating a data connection between the avionics display and the non-certified source of information so that the avionics display does not receive information from the non-certified source (controlling the display of information on the screen by terminating the current display; furthermore, during take-off and landing, the non-certified laptop is shut down, therefore terminating a data connection) (column 4, lines 2-21 and column 6, lines 13-45).

3. Claims 9-11 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McElreath U.S. Patent 6,401,013 and Doll et al. European Patent 429,387, as applied to claims 1 and 17 above, and Oran et al. U.S. Patent 5,757,371.

Referring to claims 9 and 21, McElreath and Doll et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 17 above. However, McElreath and Doll et al. fail to explicitly teach displaying a visual indicator on the display area whenever the information is being displayed. Oran et al. teach a method for displaying information on the screen (Oran et al.: column 2, lines 12-14 and further shown in Figure 13) similar to that of McElreath and Doll et al. In addition, Oran et al. further teach displaying a visual indicator on the display area whenever the information is being displayed (visual indicators displayed for each active information source, or application that has a displayed window) and preventing the display of the information from blocking the visual indicator so that the visual indicator is always visible on the display area when the information is being displayed (displaying the visual indicators in the taskbar so that it cannot be obscured by the information being displayed and is therefore always visible when the application has an active window displaying information) (Oran et al.: column 2, lines 3-21 and further shown in Figure 13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath, Doll et al. and Oran et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the computer system for displaying information taught by McElreath and Doll et al. to include the display of visual indicators whenever the information is displayed of Oran et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to be able to easily decipher when information from certain sources are being displayed; this would allow them to always be aware of where the information displayed is coming from, helping them to decide whether it is reliable.

Referring to claim 10, McElreath and Doll et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to claim 1 above. However, McElreath and Doll et al. fail to explicitly teach displaying a visual

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indicator on a portion of the display area that is not used to display the information whenever the information is being displayed. Oran et al. teach a method for displaying information on the screen (Oran et al.: column 2, lines 12-14 and further shown in Figure 13) similar to that of McElreath and Doll et al. In addition, Oran et al. further teach displaying the visual indicator on a portion of the display area that is not used to display the information so that the visual indicator is always visible when displaying the information (displaying the visual indicators in the taskbar so that it cannot be obscured by the information being displayed and is therefore always visible when the application has an active window displaying information) (Oran et al.: column 2, lines 3-21 and further shown in Figure 13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath, Doll et al. and Oran et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the computer system for displaying information taught by McElreath and Doll et al. to include the display of visual indicators on the taskbar whenever the information is displayed of Oran et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to be able to easily decipher when information from certain sources are being displayed; this would allow them to always be aware of where the information displayed is coming from, helping them to decide whether it is reliable.

Referring to claim 11, McElreath and Doll et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 9 above. However, McElreath and Doll et al. fail to explicitly teach superimposing the visual indicator in front of the information being displayed. Oran et al. teach a method for displaying information on the screen (Oran et al.: column 2, lines 12-14 and further shown in Figure 13) similar to that of McElreath and Doll et al. In addition, Oran et al. further teach superimposing the visual indicator in front of the information being displayed so that the visual

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indicator is always visible when displaying the information regardless of a location within the display area in which the information is being displayed (displaying a visual indicator on the taskbar for applications with active displayed windows so that the indicator cannot be obscured by windows displayed on the desktop) (Oran et al.: column 2, lines 3-21 and further shown in Figure 13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of McElreath, Doll et al. and Oran et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the computer system for displaying information taught by McElreath and Doll et al. to include superimposing visual indicators in front of the information being displayed of Oran et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to be able to easily decipher when information from certain sources are being displayed; this would allow them to always be aware of where the information displayed is coming from, helping them to decide whether it is reliable.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 3 August 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

5. Referring to claims 1 and 17, the applicant asserts that since neither reference is concerned with application spoofing, motivation is not present and that one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine the references as suggested. In response to applicant's arguments, the recitation "detecting application spoofing in a mixed use avionics display" has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is

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generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone.

See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951). McElreath teaches an avionics display onboard an avionics aircraft with avionics equipment, displaying certified and non-certified information, as recited in column 3, line 28 – column 4, line 21. Doll et al. teach partitioning the display area into two display areas, an inner area and an outer area; the inner area can display information without restriction but only secure information can be displayed outside the inner area; in other words, the outer area cannot display non-secure information, as recited in column 1, lines 51-55, column 2, lines 1-3, column 8, lines 16-22 and in the Abstract. Furthermore, Doll et al. teach that the display system has the advantages of a security feature that displays information in a manner that cannot be subverted by the user of the display, as recited in column 1, lines 8-16. Therefore, since both McElreath and Doll et al. both teach division of data from secure and non-secure sources, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of McElreath and Doll et al. in order to use the security measure of Doll et al. to ensure that the avionics display and aircraft of McElreath are not corrupted or otherwise tampered with by information from non-secure sources, causing the secure information to be jeopardized and the aircraft to fail due to the non-secure information and endangering the safety of the passengers onboard the aircraft.

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6. Referring to claim 3, the applicant asserts that the Doll reference does not provide the non-certified source with any information regarding the size of the display area and it does not teach providing a false indication of the size of the display area to the non-certified source. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Doll et al. teach supplying information of the boundaries (size) within which information is to be displayed, in column 1, lines 51-53. Additionally, Doll et al. teach, in column 1, line 53 – column 2, line 3, that an additional bounded area within the boundaries is established where information can be displayed without restriction, i.e. non-certified information can be displayed. Therefore, the size of the display area to which non-secure information is limited and is not the actual size of the entire display area.

7. Referring to claims 8 and 20, the applicant asserts that the Doll et al. reference fails to teach placing of the non-secured area in front of the certified information. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Doll et al. teach that non-secure information is displayed in a boxed area on the display screen while at the same time information from secure sources can be displayed in the remaining area, as recited in column 1, line 51 – column 2, line 3 and Figure 1. Therefore, the boxed area displaying the non-secure information is displayed on the remaining area.

8. Referring to claim 12, the applicant asserts that the Doll reference specifies who can print and where they can print in the display area but is not concerned about rules that govern when in the temporal sense the avionics display can display the information from the non-certified source. The examiner respectfully disagrees. The who can print and where they can print in the display area are specified by Doll et al. in column 3, lines 29-33 and column 5, lines 1-3 are part

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of authorization information. Doll et al. specifically teaches in column 2, lines 1-3 that information can be displayed in response to a special authorization indication; in other words, information can be displayed when a special authorization indication such as a verified user is received.

9. Referring to claim 14, the applicant asserts that identifying periods of operation when a laptop computer should not be utilized is not the same as identifying periods of operation when an operator of an aircraft should not be allowed to access the information and that limiting the use of specific hardware during periods of flight has no bearing whatsoever on the accessing of information from a non-certified source. The examiner respectfully disagrees. McElreath teaches that during periods such as take-offs and landings, laptops, which are non-certified sources of information (column 3, lines 56-31), are required to be shut down (column 1, lines 35-40); therefore, if the source of the non-certified information is shut down, information stored on the non-certified information source cannot be accessed.

10. Referring to claim 16, the applicant asserts that the McElreath reference fails to teach terminating a data connection. The examiner respectfully disagrees. As recited in column 4, lines 12-17, McElreath specifically recite the “termination of display of information normally displayed thereon” and the commencement of the display of new information. Furthermore, on column 1, lines 35-40, McElreath teaches shutting down laptops, which are sources of non-certified information, during take-offs and landings; therefore, with the laptop shut down, the display of information from the lap-top is consequently terminated.

11. Referring to claim 11, the applicant asserts that the taskbar is limited to being anchored at the edges of the display and therefore will not allow the taskbar to be superimposed in front of the information being displayed regardless of the location within the display area in which the information is being displayed. The examiner respectfully disagrees. As claimed, the language of claim 11 recites “superimposing the visual indicator in front of the information being displayed so that the visual indicator is always visible when displaying the information regardless of a location within the display area in which the information is being displayed”. The language of the claims suggests that the visual indicator is superimposed in front of the information being displayed in such a way that regardless of where the information is being displayed, the visual indicator is always visible and not that regardless of where the information is displayed, the visual indicator is always in front of the information being displayed, as suggested by the applicant. Oran et al. teach displaying a visual indicator on the taskbar displayed on top of the desktop, where application windows, or information are displayed, as recited in column 2, lines 3-21. In addition, since, as the applicant pointed out, the Oran reference teaches a task bar that can be made to always be on top of the other display components, the visual indicator displayed on the taskbar can always be seen regardless of where the other display components are.

12. Therefore, it can be seen that McElreath and Doll et al. anticipate the subject invention.

13. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

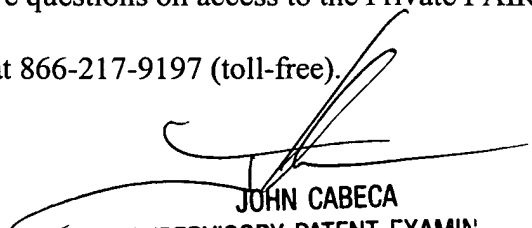
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ting Zhou whose telephone number is (571) 272-4058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached at (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-4058.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

19 November 2004